

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN SA 00971 021822Z
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-01 DHA-02 PA-01
PRS-01 USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /036 W
-----030820 116464 /11
R 021800Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3523

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 0971

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, SHUM, PINS, ES
SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN PRIESTS IN EL SALVADOR

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0959

1. NEWLY-DESIGNATED ARCHBISHOP, MONSIGNOR OSCAR A. ROMERO, DURING MY CALL ON HIM THIS MORNING, TOLD ME HE CONSIDERED RECENT EXPULSION OF FOREIGN PRIESTS FROM SALVADOR UNJUSTIFIED. THEY WERE GUILTY, HE SAID, ONLY OF "SOCIAL CONSCIOUSNESS". FOREIGN PRIESTS, HE ADDED, MAKE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO FULFILLMENT OF ECCLESIASTICAL DUTIES IN EL SALVADOR AND THE CHURCH WELCOMES THEM AND APPRECIATES THEIR EFFORTS. HE HAD TALKED ONCE WITH PRESIDENT ABOUT THE SITUATION AND INTENDS TO DO SO AGAIN.

2. COMMENT: AFTER REVIEWING CASES OF FATHERS SURVIL AND MCCULLOCH, AND THE COMPLAINTS FILED AGAINST THEM, I DECIDED TO CONFER WITH NEW ARCHBISHOP ABOUT TREATMENT OF AMERICAN PRIESTS. I FEEL ALSO THAT, EVEN THOUGH CLAIMING TO BE ACTING WITHIN THEIR OWN LAW, THE SALVADORAN AUTHORITIES ARE OVER-SENSITIVE AND HAVE OVER-REACTED ARBITRARILY.
LOZANO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, CLERGYMEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANSAA00971
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770073-0083
Format: TEL
From: SAN SALVADOR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703101/aaaadkxu.tel
Line Count: 46
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c93c88ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 SAN SALVADOR 959
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2938912
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ACTIVITIES OF AMERICAN PRIESTS IN EL SALVADOR
TAGS: CASC, SHUM, PINS, ES
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c93c88ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009